

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Paragraph beginning on page 2, line 11 as follows:

In today's highly verbal and highly interactive technical climate, it is often necessary or desirable to transmit human voice electronically from one point to another, sometimes over great distance, and often over channels of limited bandwidth. For example, conversations via cell phone links or via the Internet or other digital electronic networks are now ~~common place~~ commonplace. Likewise, it is often useful to digitally store human voice, such as on the hard drive of a computer, or in the volatile or nonvolatile memory of a digital recording device. For example, digitally stored human voice may be replayed as part of a telephone answering protocol or an audio presentation.

Please amend the Paragraph starting on page 12, line 21 as follows:

The operation of the modules illustrated in Fig. 1 will now be described in greater detail with reference to Fig. 2 in conjunction with Figs. 3a and 3b. In particular, Fig. 2 shows simplified waveforms 203, 205, 207, 209, 211 having prominent pitch peaks 201. Note that the peak shifts illustrated in Fig. 2 are exaggerated for clarity. Actual shift amounts should be limited as will be discussed hereinafter. Figs. 3a and 3b are flowcharts illustrating the steps executed in an embodiment of the invention to code a speech signal. At step 301, an analog speech signal 119 is received by digitizer 121. In step 303, digitizer 121 samples the signal at ~~8khz~~ 8kHz to obtain a digital sampled audio signal $s(n)$. Subsequently, in step 305, signal $s(n)$ is grouped into non-overlapping frames of 160 samples (20 ms) long by the digitizer, each of which is further subdivided into 2 non-overlapping subframes of 80 samples (10ms) long. Thus, the signal in the k^{th} frame is given by $s(160k) \dots s(160k + 159)$. The framed sampled signal 109 is passed from the digitizer 121 to the LPC extractor 123 in step 307.